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646754 E.O.

Com-10

1 October 1964

DDS&T #2631-64

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: SIGINT Committee

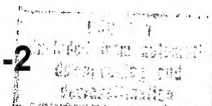
1. In connection with your desire to strengthen the SIGINT Committee, I should like to make the following points: *

a. For some years the intelligence community, since the abolition of the United States Communications Intelligence Board, has generally made a practice of having its technical specialists represent them on the SIGINT Committee. While these individuals have long experience, particularly in COMINT matters, there has been a tendency to approach problems more from a technical point of view than with a broad perspective. It is necessary in my view, therefore, that the USIB members designate as their SIGINT Committee representatives individuals who can represent their agencies and departments on a broad front.

b. The SIGINT Committee should continue to have available to it the technical proficiency represented on the present SIGINT Committee. This should be accomplished by establishing a COMINT and an ELINT Subcommittee of the SIGINT Committee. Some could argue that one technical subcommittee would fill the technical support requirements to the SIGINT Committee, but I am convinced that COMINTers and ELINTers are not interchangeable, and that the best ELINTers in the community and the best COMINTers in the community should comprise respectively the ELINT Subcommittee and the COMINT Subcommittee.

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c. I would suggest [REDACTED] as the appropriate COMINT Subcommittee chairman as he is the senior and most experienced COMINT in CIA; and George Miller, Assistant Director/Office of ELINT, as the ELINT Subcommittee chairman. He is a pioneer ELINT and the most experienced in the Agency.

d. To best serve the Agency on the SIGINT Committee itself, I believe that a senior officer of the DDI should be designated the CIA Member and I would suggest J.J. Hitchcock, Chief of the DDI Collection Guidance Staff for this assignment.

e. The issue of membership on the SIGINT Committee will of course arise and arguments will be advanced to seat representatives of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. In my view, I believe the same pattern as now exists on the Watch Committee should be followed, where DIA is the member and representatives of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, who do not sit at the table, act as observers or advisors to the DIA Member. The composition of the Committee should be: The Chair, CIA; DIA; State; NSA; FBI and AEC where their interests are specifically involved.

f. I have reviewed DCID 6/1, SIGINT Committee, and find that my foregoing suggestions are compatible with its terms.

8. In proposing your concept for strengthening the SIGINT Committee, I believe that all of the above points, except the names of the individuals, should be stressed so that your objectives can be achieved.

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[REDACTED]
CIA SIGINT Officer

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